



Tuesday, November 4, 2014
Board of Education Meeting Minutes

RUSH-HENRIETTA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

District No. 1 of the Towns of Rush, Henrietta, Pittsford, and Brighton

All appendices referenced to, herein, are incorporated into and made a part of the official minutes of this meeting to the same extent as if fully set forth.

In Attendance:

- Board members: Diane E. McBride, President
Phyllis P. Wickerham, Vice president
Robert C. Bower
Jean M. Chaudari
Rosie B. Mitchell
Pamela J. Reinhardt
Sue A. Smith
- Others: Dr. J. Kenneth Graham Jr., Superintendent of Schools
Mr. George DesMarteau, School Attorney
Mrs. Karen A. Flanigan, School District Clerk
Dr. Patrick McCue, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Strategic Initiatives
Mr. Andrew Whitmore, Assistant Superintendent, School Finance and Operations
Mrs. Dina Wilson, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction
- Absent: Mrs. Nerlande Anselme, Assistant Superintendent, Student and Family Services
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1. BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – GENERAL

A. Board of Education Members, Superintendent of Schools, School Attorney, School District Clerk, Cabinet Members

See above attendance.

B. Meeting Information

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District was held Tuesday, November 4, 2014, in the Dee Strickland Conference Room at the Parker Administration Building, 2034 Lehigh Station Road, Henrietta, NY 14467.

2. ANTICIPATED EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Call to Order

Mrs. McBride called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m.

B. Anticipated executive session to discuss a Memorandum of Agreement with AARH regarding an administrative position, a disciplinary agreement regarding a RHEA coalition member, and an anticipated disciplinary action and extension of paid administrative leave regarding a teacher

**MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:29 P.M. TO DISCUSS
A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH AARH REGARDING AN
ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION, A DISCIPLINARY AGREEMENT
REGARDING A RHEA COALITION MEMBER, AND AN
ANTICIPATED DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND EXTENSION
OF PAID ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE REGARDING A TEACHER
MOVED: Mrs. Smith**

**SECONDED: Mrs. Mitchell
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

**MOTION TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7 P.M.
MOVED: Mr. Bower
SECONDED: Mrs. Smith
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

3. OPENING OF PUBLIC MEETING

A. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Introductions, Agenda Review, and Announcements

Mrs. McBride called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and introductions done. During agenda review, the Memorandum of Agreement discussed during executive session was added to the consent agenda items. There were no announcements.

4. BOARD MEMBER REPORT FROM STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE(S)

Mr. Michael Slattery, student representative, reported on the first student council meeting where student concerns were discussed (disruption of PDAs in hallways; warm-ups for gym; wearing hats; and the locking of building doors at 7:30 a.m., which makes some students late for class), Comet Crazies Club wanting to start-up again, and providing transportation to athletic games. He also talked about students being recognized for their hard work during announcements, teachers appreciating Friday Night Lights, donations that were recently collected, and fall sports coming to an end. He gave kudos to three girls who will be participating in the state tournament for cross country, explained that both student representatives would alternate board meetings so someone would always be in attendance, and ended with kudos regarding the new counseling center.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

A. Audience Members May Address the Board of Education Regarding Items of Interest Not on the Agenda

There were no audience members in attendance wishing to speak.

6. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR ROUTINE MATTERS (Reference appendices #6A-N)

- A. Report of bills audited and paid during September 2014
- B. Action pertaining to acceptance of the September treasurer's report
- C. Action pertaining to the award of bids
- D. Action pertaining to acceptance of change order #HVAC-008 – Bell Mechanical Contractors, Inc. – CIP 2011 Sperry - \$2,619
- E. Action pertaining to acceptance of change order #EC-005 – Blackmon-Farrell Electric, Inc. – Admin. addition - \$1,653
- F. Report of Phase III change orders as of Oct. 2014
- G. Report of administration building change orders as of Oct. 2014
- H. Action pertaining to approval of the recommendation to acknowledge no material events to report to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as part of the SEC Municipal Securities Self Reporting Initiative
- I. Action pertaining to approval of the 2014-15 Medicaid Compliance Committee members
- J. Action pertaining to approval of the Local Action Plan for Sherman Elementary School
- K. Action pertaining to approval of an overnight field trip – Dartmouth Relays
- L. Action pertaining to approval of CSE/CPSE recommendations
- M. Action pertaining to approval of Board of Education meeting minutes – 10/21/14
- N. Action pertaining to approval of a Memorandum of Agreement between the Rush-Henrietta Central School District and Administrators' Association of Rush-Henrietta (AARH)

**MOTION PERTAINING TO ACCEPTANCE
OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #6A-N
MOVED: Mrs. Wickerham**

7. PERSONNEL ACTIONS (Reference appendix #7A)

- A. Action pertaining to approval of personnel actions

**MOTION PERTAINING TO APPROVAL
OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS
MOVED: Mrs. Chaudari
SECONDED: Mrs. Reinhardt
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

8. WORKSHOPS (Reference appendices #8A-B)

A. Budget Development (2015-16) - Overview

Dr. Graham said the key is to recommend a school budget that is educationally sound and fiscally responsible. He provided the board with an overview of the 2015-16 budget development process, which will begin with the Program and Service Review in December.

B. Veterans School Tax Exemption

Dr. Graham stated that Mr. Whitmore, assistant superintendent for School Finance and Operations, updated the material from a year ago and that it hasn't really changed. He provided a summary of the material and talked about a resolution being adopted by some school boards in Monroe County pertaining to the exemption. He asked board members if they would like to consider a tax exemption and, if so, at what level. If the decision is to proceed, Dr. Graham said a public hearing must be held and advertised. He asked for some indication tonight as to board member interest. Discussion ensued. By majority vote, board members were in favor of a public hearing to solicit community input on the direction they would like the board to take prior to a decision being made. It will be held Dec. 2 and be advertised in the district's fall newsletter, to prevent the need for a separate mailing, and on the district website. Dr. Graham suggested holding off on pursuing a resolution on the exemption until after the public hearing.

9. WORKSHOP – FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT (PART IX) (Reference appendices #9A-B, D-E)

A. Updated Information

Dr. Graham provided a recap of where the board is on making a decision regarding full-day kindergarten and provided a brief summary of the Space Committee meeting. He said tonight he is looking for a determination of what is the best alternative in the board's opinion and then the protocol for moving forward. He reviewed the most recent enrollment projections and the implications of these projections for each space plan. Dr. Graham said Space Committee would meet on Nov. 13 and look further into the alternative that is decided on tonight. Discussion ensued.

B. Benefits and Concerns

Dr. Graham reviewed the benefits and concerns. He spoke about a very well thought out letter he received and that he believes there is insufficient understanding by parents as to what is being done (e.g. that the board will identify what it believes to be the best alternative, which will then be presented to voters for approval in the form of funding propositions). He also provided some input regarding state aid. Dr. Graham asked board members which of the two alternatives they collectively believe is the best one. Before making a decision, Mrs. McBride asked the two members of the audience if they had any questions or comments.

Kim McDonough – 24 Vollmer Parkway, Rochester, NY 14623

One of Ms. McDonough's concerns involves the change in school start times, particularly as this relates to daycare. Dr. Graham said he had already started discussions with Jack Moore, Henrietta town supervisor, about creating wraparound daycare and provided an explanation.

Joseph DiGioia – 71 Salzer Heights, West Henrietta, NY 14586

One of Mr. DiGioia's concerns is regarding alternative two and how it will affect parent-teacher associations and the assets from each of these groups. Dr. Graham provided some preliminary thoughts on how this would work. Mr. DiGioia suggested better communication and used the example of finding out that looping was no longer in existence and he never had a chance to voice his concerns. He said this is why he is in attendance tonight. Dr. Graham asked what he would recommend the board do to address his concern. His response was a parent rep from each school. He said he's been in the district for seven years and this is the first night he's met the superintendent. He feels this is a lot of parents' concern. Mr. DiGioia feels if he puts forth a lot of effort volunteering in schools, that it would be nice to meet the superintendent.

Ms. McDonough said her viewpoint differs from Mr. DiGioia's in that she believes it is a parent's responsibility to attend board meetings in order to meet the superintendent and to learn. She feels it is the district's responsibility to inform her and her responsibility to attend the meetings.

Michael Slattery, the board's student representative, offered some thoughts. He sees the high school start time as a huge benefit in regard to focusing in the classroom; feels the K3-46-79 configuration will only be a temporary disruption, but not in the long run; and he likes the additional electives for seventh and eighth graders.

Discussion ensued amongst board members.

C. Action pertaining to adoption of the space plan for full-day kindergarten and enrollment management

**MOTION PERTAINING TO ADOPTION OF THE SPACE
PLAN FOR FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN
AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT
PRESENTED AS ALTERNATIVE 2
MOVED: Mr. Bower
SECONDED: Mrs. Smith
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

D. Alternative 1 – Action pertaining to adoption of a resolution to initiate the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) Lead Agency Coordination Process for the Rush-Henrietta Central School District's Full-Day Kindergarten Building Improvement Projects
This alternative was not selected.

E. Alternative 2 – Action pertaining to adoption of a resolution to initiate the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) Lead Agency Coordination Process for the Rush-Henrietta Central School District's Full-Day Kindergarten Building Improvement Projects

**MOTION PERTAINING TO INITIATION OF THE STATE
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEQRA)
LEAD AGENCY COORDINATION PROCESS FOR THE
RUSH-HENRIETTA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT'S
FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN BUILDING IMPROVE-
MENT PROJECTS (ALTERNATIVE 2)
MOVED: Mrs. Chaudari
SECONDED: Mrs. Mitchell
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

Dr. Graham said a communication plan would need to be laid out at the next meeting. If given the ok, he will contact schools to find out when their parent groups meet. Mr. DiGioia believes school-by-

school would be best. The board was in agreement to start scheduling. Board members also believe we should host two community forums. Mrs. Reinhardt suggested also posting information to Facebook. Dr. Graham said the district needs to be transparent and unified in its explanations.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Reference appendix #10A)

A. Written: Summer Transportation Study

Dr. Graham said this is a study the board requested. After some checking, he discovered that very few students don't attend summer school because of the lack of transportation. He also explained that summer school transportation is not aidable. He explained that there were many reasons as to why the district should not do it. Board members agreed. Mrs. Mitchell had a concern regarding middle school numbers. Dr. Graham provided an explanation. Mrs. Wickerham withdrew her request to take another look at providing summer school transportation.

B. Oral Information

- There were no oral information items.

11. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Space Committee (Oct. 23, 30)

This information was provided during the full-day kindergarten workshop.

B. NYSSBA Convention (Oct. 26-28)

This item was tabled to the next meeting.

C. MCSBA Steering Committee (Oct. 29)

Dr. Graham said he had nothing to report.

12. CLOSING OF MEETING

A. Board Meeting Recap

- Board Member Reports – NYSSBA Convention was tabled to the next meeting.
- A communication plan will need to be laid out at the next meeting. A suggestion was made by a member of the audience to communicate this school-by-school before the community forums are held.
- Community forums to be set up at Burger and Roth middle schools in January.
- A public hearing will be held Dec. 2 for the veterans school tax exemption. Information will be sent in the district's fall newsletter and posted to the district website.
- District Policy Quarterly Review – This item will be on the Dec. 2 agenda.
- MCSBA lobby trip – Mrs. Reinhardt is unable to go. Mrs. McBride is contemplating it. Dr. Graham is planning to go.

B. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:50 P.M.

MOVED: Mr. Bower

SECONDED: Mrs. Reinhardt

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

C. Next Board of Education Meeting

The next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, November 18, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Flanigan

School District Clerk

Board Approved: November 18, 2014